Episode 14- Mike Leaves Melissa All By Herself while He Goes Off to Hawaii

scene 1- int. mike's bedroom, 2/24/2011, 11PM

I'm packin' shit! MELISSA is very much getting in my way.

mike

Wow. Could you be any more in my way?

melissa

Yes, I could.

She gets like right up on me. I weave around her and put an ugly Hawaiian shirt in the suitcase.

MELISSA

Come on. I can't let you go to Hawaii with your suitcase packed like some crazy person packed it.

MIKE

What's wrong with it?

MELISSA

What's right with it??? Look at it, dude! This shirt is like... AWFUL! If anyone in Hawaii with any proper sense sees you wearing this shirt, they'll sacrifice you to the Hawaiian god of... shirts!

MIKE

There is no such thing as a god of shirts.

MELISSA

Yes so! His name is... Shirt-a-koa.

MIKE

Clever.

MELISSa

I THOUGHT SO! Anyways, I hang out with him like every Tuesday. And believe me, a shirt like THAT will super duty piss him off.

MIKE

Well... put in a good word for me so he lets it slide-

I continue packing. She makes me throw my ugly shirt onto the other side of the room. I glare at her, but I go get it. I try to put it back in, but she's all like nah and eventually we start rasslin'. She pushes me down onto the bed.

MELISSA

Sorry, but Shirt-a-toa has spoken. I'm to pin you down until you buy a better wardrobe.

MIKE

MAN, WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM??? WHY WON'T YOU JUST LET ME PACK???

MELISSA

MAN, I don't want you to be sacrificed-

MIKE

Come on, Mel...

MELISSA

Fine... I just don't want you to go. What am I gonna do without you?

MIKE

Daww... come here.

Squeeze.

MIKE

Why don't you just come with? I'll sneak you in through my suitcase or some shit.

MELISSA

Great. As much of a blast as that sounds, that ain't gonna fly. I-

MIKE

Pun intended?

MELISSA

No, unfortunately... anyways, here's what's up. Have you ever noticed that my presence is a lot stronger in this apartment?

MIKE

Yeah... I thought that was just because I'm alone here with you more than anywhere else.

MELISSA

True. But see because of that, and because of all the memories we've shared here specifically, I got a sort of symbiotic bind with the place. So when you go 10000 miles away to a place I've never been, especially when there's a bunch of people around... my presence will be like 1% of what it is right now.

MIKE

Well... shoot. (beat.) What if... we had really amazing sex right now, so that when I get there I'm full of thoughts of you and then you'll be like... there. You know?

MELISSA

I get what you're saying, but... I don't think that'll work.

MIKE

Well... double shoot.

Beat.

MELISSA

But it's worth a shot!

She swoops down and we start making out and stuff. You know. Typical cutaway before things get too hot and heavy to the

INTRO SEQUENCE!!!

scene 2- int. mike's bedroom, 2/25/2011, 5AM

MELISSA stirs awake and notices that I'm playing guitar. She scuttles over and rests her head on my shoulder. I notice this and we exchange licks and nuzzles.

MELISSA

Get much sleep?

MIKE

Pfft no. You realize that I usually go to bed around this time? Even on school days???

MELISSA

That's wacky. It's like you're living on Hawaii time... in Michigan! But those are two different places...

MIKE

Great, Melissa...

MELISSA

Thanks. That was pretty amazing, wasn't it?

MIKE

It was astonishing. Believe it or not, I'm going to miss your lameness.

MELISSA

And I'll miss your backhanded compliments. Dick.

MIKE

Ah, you know I'm just messin' with ya.

MELISSA

Yeah. But you're still a dick.

MIKE

Nah, I'm alright.

MELISSA

You are alright. For a dick, anyways.

MIKE

Oh, come here, you.

We start making kissyface as some car headlights shine through the window.

MELISSA

Is that your folks?

MIKE

Yep...

I get up and grab my suitcase. MEL jumps on top of it.

MELISSA

No... you're not allowed to go.

MIKE

Not the shirt god again...

MELISSA

No, not the shirt god. ME! Don't leave me here alone!

MIKE

It's only two weeks. I mean, you did fine without me for what, 20 years? So whats-

MELISSA

FALSE. I only did fine because I was just a meandering, unmaterialized thought. Now that I've been realized... it's gonna suck! I've never been alone for that long...

MIKE

You won't be alone. You can hang out with my pets.

MELISSA

Yeah, I guess...

MIKE

And my sister's gonna come around to take care of 'em.

MELISSA

But... she thinks I'm weird...

MIKE

Ah she just needs to get to know you... or you could hang with Nicole.

MELISSA

Oh alright. And I guess I can read and sing and work on a painting-

MIKE

I didn't know you paint.

MELISSA

There's a lot you don't know about me.

MIKE

Like what?

Honks.

MIKE

Guess I'll have to wait 'til I get back to find out...

MELISSA

Wait. Before you go...

We share a bunch of kisses.

MELISSA

Wait... one more.

One more. And then I add one more quick one.

MIKE

In case you needed another "one more".

MELISSA

I did, actually. Thanks, sweetie.

MIKE

No prob. See you in two weeks. Love you.

MELISSA

Love you too...

We slowly drift apart, never breaking eye contact. Finally I close the door. MEL leans up against the door. She looks like she's gonna be all sad but then she's like nah.

MELISSA (v.o.)

Well... might as well get started on that painting.

scene 3- int. mike's living room, 2/25/2011, 10AM

MEL, dressed in a smock, is going crazy on her painting. VERA walks by.

MELISSA

Kitty...

She pets VERA. MEL smiles, then gets back to work. VERA leaps up on the couch, investigating the painting.

MELISSA

What do you think, Vera?

vera

Meow.

MELISSA

Yeah, I know. But it isn't done yet. You'll see... it's gonna be really good.

She works some more. VERA continues to stare. MEL looks back.

MELISSA

Alright, here's the deal. Painting's not my forte, per se. But... I gotta do something while Mike is gone. I said I was gonna paint, so... might as well paint, right?

VERA continues to stare. MEL frowns, scraps her painting, and throws herself down on the couch next to VERA.

MELISSA

I don't suppose you could give me any better ideas?

VERA falls asleep.

MELISSA

Good call...

She curls up and falls asleep too.

scene 4- ext. duke's restaurant, 2/25/2011, 4PM (Hawaii time)

My parents and I are hanging out at a table. MOM looks annoyed.

mom

You know Mike, now that we're in Hawaii, you don't have to wear that hat.

MIKE

I know.

mom

...So maybe you should take it off?

MIKE

Why in the world would I want to do that?

mom

Well... it's just not appropriate. People will think you're...

MIKE

Weird?

MOM nods.

MIKE

So what? You think I care what any of these tourist yuppies think?

SOME TOURIST #1 walks by.

SOME TOURIST #1

Nice hat!!!

MIKE

Thanks!!! (beat as he walk by.) Well... maybe I care a little.

MOM

Oh, he was probably a Michigan fan. But MOST people will think-

Our SERVER comes up with the food.

server

Here we are... by the way I like your hat!!!

MIKE

Thanks!!!

DAD

Are you a U of M fan?

SERVER

What? No, I just like the ears.

She walks away. I look back at MOM in triumph.

MOM

Well... she was probably just saying that so that she could get a better tip. I still say MOST people-

DAD

Carol, come on. He's 21 years old. If he wants to wear the hat, let him wear the hat.

MOM clams up and looks pissed. DAD and I each give that "here we go again look". A family of JAPANESE TOURISTS comes up.

JAPANESE TOURIST DAD

Excuse me, my daughter would like a picture with you and your AWESOME HAT. Would you mind?

MIKE

Not at all!

I get up and go pose for a picture with their family. MOM gives an "oh, whatever" gesture.

scene 5- int. mike's living room, 2/28/2011, noon

MELISSA is back at work on the painting. VERA is still there on the couch, staring condescendingly at her. MEL gives up.

MELISSA

Man... this isn't coming out like I had it in my head... you'd think since I came out of someone else's head that I'd know how to get something out of mine. Heh...

VERA continues to stare.

MELISSA

You know, maybe the problem is that I'm taking the wrong approach. Sure, I got the brush in hand and I'm stroking the canvas, but I'm not allowing myself to FEEL the art. It just ain't flowing through me, you know?... What do you think?

VERA starts licking herself.

MELISSA

THAT'S IT! So simple, yet so brilliant! By using the brush, I'm not connecting directly with the canvas! I need to interact with it through my primal senses. And what better way to do that than with my favorite organ... MY TONGUE!!!

She smears her tongue with paint and starts licking the canvas like a fool. She soon realizes that this is ridiculous and that her tongue is not taking too well to the taste of paint. She takes the little bucket of rinsin' water and tries rinsing out her tongue. She hears a door open and close and realizes that LIZ just came in. She turns invisible. VERA runs up to bug LIZ for food.

VERA

MEOW!!!

liz

Shush, you!

She puts food in her bowl, then enters the living room with lettuce and carrots for I.E.O.

MELISSA

Hey, Liz. How're you doing? Thanks again for taking care of all Mike's pets. He really appreciates it.

i.e.o.

SQUEE! SQUEE! SQUEE!

LIZ

Shush, you!

She feeds him the stuff. She then goes over to the rat cage.

LIZ

You gonna start making noise, too?

They just stare at her. She feeds them, then goes.

MELISSA

See you tomorrow....

Door closes. MELISSA sighs, then plops down on the couch. VERA jumps up next to her.

MELISSA

Oh, Vera, sometimes I wish I had an imaginary friend of my own for times like this...

NICOLE poofs in.

nicole

And what am I, chopped liver?

MELISSA

Oh. Hey, Nicole. Where've you been?

NICOLE

Out and about. Hanging out with other imaginary/fantasy spirit types. But I heard you could use some company so... here I am.

MELISSA

Alright, you can hang out here if you want, I guess... there's not a whole lot for us imaginary folk to do, but I've been working on this here painting. It's not done, but-

NICOLE takes a look at it.

NICOLE

No, it's done.

She tears it up.

MELISSA

!!!... wait... THAT'S IT! Instead of approaching my painting as a whole, I need to first assemble the rudimentary elements separately then bring them back together! Thanks, Nicole! I think I finally-

NICOLE

MELISSA! YOU'RE NOT A PAINTER AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BECOME ONE THROUGH SOME STUPID STROKE OF GENIUS!!!

MEL looks super hurt.

NICOLE

Look... why are you suddenly so obsessed with this painting anyways? Why aren't you... practicing singing or something?

MELISSA

Because I told Mike I'd have a painting for him by the time he got back...

NICOLE

Ugh... Mike Mike Mike Mike MIKE! All I ever hear you talk about is Mike is and how awesome you think he is and how cute you think his poopy-faced face is!

MELISSA

Yeah, but... he imagined me. So it's not like I got much else to-

NICOLE

FALSE. Just because he imagined you doesn't mean you have to be his slave. You can be your own woman now.

MELISSA

Yeah, I know. I just choose to be TOTALLY IN LOVE WITH MIKE!!!

NICOLE

BARF!!! You know what you need? You need to experience life outside of... you know who. You need to find your real self.

MELISSA

I know my-

NICOLE

No you don't. But I know just the place where you can find it.

NICOLE grabs MEL and they poof away to...

scene 6- ext. party town, 2/28/2011, 6PM

They pop up in PARTY TOWN, or a big, posh outdoor soiree in the courtyard of someone's elaborate estate. Imaginary spirits of all shapes and sizes are abound, drifting this way and that and mingling. Oh yeah and they're wearing fancy pants clothes now.

MELISSA

Cool. Are we in the recesses of my own subconscious?

NICOLE

No, you fool. We're in PARTY TOWN!!!

MELISSA

Oh. Okay. I was just kind of excited because we never go into my subconscious so then it would have been like... a reverse thing. And those are like... awesome sometimes. You know?

NICOLE

...WHAT???

COMMERCIAL BREAK!!!

MELISSA

So... what is this place?

NICOLE

PARTY. TOWN. Do you have paint in your ears?

MELISSA

Yes, actually. Let me just...

A bunch of paint squirts out of her ears and splats NICOLE right in the face!

NICOLE

That's... great.

MELISSA

I thought you might appreciate that. But no, I mean what kind of place is party town?

nicole

Are you serious? You've never heard of this place?

MELISSA

Nah, I don't hear nothing about nothing. See for years I've had this problem with paint in my ears-

NICOLE

Squirt me with paint again and I will gore you.

MELISSA stops.

NICOLE

Now... party town is a really big party-

MELISSA

Oh really? I would have never guessed-

NICOLE snaps her fingers and points at MELISSA as a warning.

NICOLE

Yes. It's an old estate in France that's owned by this guy Henri Godard.

She points out HENRI, who is chatting it up with an octopus monster.

MELISSA

Godard? Any relation to the director?

NICOLE

Shit, I don't care! Point is every night he holds a big soiree for a bunch of imaginary creatures. Furries, lizard people, amorphous blobs... you name it, they're all here.

MELISSA

Wait... so you're telling me that I don't have to stay in places that Mike associates me with? I can go wherever I want?

NICOLE

Anywhere in the world! Your presence may not be as strong to "real" people, but-

MELISSA

Well in that case...

She poofs away to...

scene 7- ext. hawaiian beach, 2/28/2011, noon

MOM, DAD, and I are hanging out at the beach. The waves are all crazy and smashing on the shore. I look at this and I look at DAD.

DAD

Well son... shall we battle the mighty ocean?

MIKE

Look at those waves... they're demolishing this beach. If we don't step in to do something about this, nobody will.

He and I get up.

MOM

Guys, I don't think you should go in...

MIKE

Sheesh, would you relax? It's not like I haven't done this before.

mom

Yeah, but-

MIKE

We'll be fine. Besides, you should be happy. This means that I'll finally take off my hat.

RANDOM TOURIST #2 WALKS BY.

SOME TOURIST #2

I like your hat!

MIKE

THANKS!

I toss my hat down on my towel. MOM looks annoyed. DAD and I run into the water. I get slapped by a big ass wave and get pulled under. I surface and see a somewhat faded MEL there in front of me.

MIKE

MEL!

I swim over and we smooch and hug and stuff.

MELISSA

Turns out I CAN come here after all... for a bit. And it looks like my presence isn't as strong, but...

MIKE

It's better than not having you here.

We kiss again.

MELISSA

Enjoying the trip?

MIKE

Verily! Except the part where my mom treats me like I'm five.

MELISSA

Ah, cut her a little slack. She's doing it because she cares about you, but she... well, you know.

MIKE

I know... so, how's the painting coming along?

MELISSA

Yeah... that...

NICOLE pops in.

NICOLE

Oh, no you don't!

She grabs MEL.

MELISSA

I'll see you in a few days!

Quick kiss and she poofs away. Then she poofs back.

MELISSA

And watch out for super wave!

Poofs away again right as I get DEMOLISHED BY SUPER WAVE!

scene 6 again

MEL and NICOLE poof back to the place.

MELISSA

Nicole, come on! I was gonna come right back in like five minutes-

NICOLE

No you weren't.

MELISSA

No I wasn't...

NICOLE

Look, don't you ever get tired of always obsessing over Mike?

MELISSA

No way, man! We're best buds in the whole world.

NICOLE

Okay, but even best... buds... need some time apart every now and again so they don't drive each other insane.

MELISSA

It may be a little late for that-

NICOLE

Ha ha ha. Besides, there's some guys I want you to meet.

She drags MEL over to a table where there's a big blue buffalo named BWARI BOON chatting it up with a bunch of lady types.

NICOLE

Melissa Mouffete, I'd like you to meet Bwari Boon, international playboy and multimedia tycoon.

bwari

Charmed, I'm sure.

He takes MEL's hand and kisses it. She blushes... but not out of flattery.

MELISSA

So tell me, Bwari. Any relation to Babe, the big blue ox?

BWARI lets out a long, fake laugh.

BWARI

Beautiful AND funny? Quite a catch. Whoever imagined you has a fine taste in women.

MELISSA

Yes, my BOYFRIEND really did a bang-up job with me I must say. Now, if you'll excuse me-

BWARI

One moment, mademoiselle. I'd be honored if you and your friend would join me for a bit of polite conversation.

MELISSA

(to Nicole)

Do I have a choice?

NICOLE

Nope!

BWARI

Excellent!

He pushes two of the women sitting next to him onto the floor to make room for NICOLE and MEL.

BWARI

Now... back to the topic at hand... are you two familiar with the most recent development in the tonic water wars?

MEL slams her head down on the table.

scene 8- ext. lana'i north shore, 3/5/2011, noon

MOM, DAD and I are checkin' out the awesome cliffs and mountainside stuff. I notice a radio tower ruining the landscape.

MIKE

Check it out. They got this nice radio tower set up there and they put all this nature around it just to ruin it.

DAD

Thoughtless bastards...

MIKE

Really.

DAD goes over to what might be considered somewhat close to the edge.

mom

Jamie, don't stand so close to the edge.

MIKE

Mom... he's fine.

DAD moves closer.

MOM

Jamie!

MIKE

Mom, come on! It's one thing to treat me like a baby, it's another to treat your husband like one.

MOM glares and huffs off.

MIKe

(to DAD)

God... really? What is her deal???

dad

Oh, you know. She's your mother.

MIKE

Yeah, but didn't she get her fill of this when I WAS a baby?

dad

Trust me, it doesn't go away. You should go talk to her though.

MIKE

Nah, I'll let you handle that... dad.

We eye each other down, then do rock paper scissors. I lose and reluctantly go over to talk to her.

MIKE

Dad fell of the edge and splatted against the rocks below. So it turns out he should have listened to you after all. (beat) Not really, though. He's standing right over there-

MOM

WHY DO YOU TWO ALWAYS GANG UP ON ME?

MIKE

I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE YOU NEVER TREAT ME LIKE I'M AN ADULT?

MOM

WELL YOU KNOW I ONLY DO THAT BECAUSE I WORRY ABOUT YOU. YOU DON'T HAVE TO TREAT ME LIKE SOME KIND OF DICTATOR.

MIKE

I KNOW THAT AND I APPRECIATE IT I JUST SOMETIMES FEEL A LITTLE PATRONIZED IS ALL.

MOM

OKAY WELL MAYBE I CAN BE A LITTLE LESS IMPOSING FROM NOW ON.

MIKE

AND MAYBE I CAN BE A LITTLE MORE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR FEELINGS. SOUND LIKE A DEAL?

MOM

SURE!

She walks off. DAD comes over.

dad

So how'd it go?

MIKE

It went well... I think...

We all walk back towards the inland. I take off my hat. MOM sees this.

MIKE

It's a little hot in this thing...

She smiles. SOME TOURIST #3 hikes by.

some tourist #3

Awesome hat. Did you see they were beating MSU?

I quickly put my hat back on. MOM approves.

scene 9- ext. party town, 3/5/2011, 6PM

BWARI, NICOLE, and MEL are still at the exact same table talking bout the same stuff.

BWARI

So I may have lost my best friends... but for tonic water like this? I have no regrets.

NICOLE

What a man...

MELISSA

Excuse me, but... we've been talking about the freaking tonic water wars for literally 6 days.

BWARI

Have we? My goodness, time really flies when you're telling the most important story of our times-

MELISSA

Speak for yourselves. For god sakes, my fake dad fought in the tonic water wars I've heard enough about them!

MEL'S DAD shows up.

mel's dad

Melissa? What are you doing here?

MELISSA

Oh no... NO...

BWARI

Sir it's an honor to meet a fellow war hero.

He extends his hand to shake, but... it's on the arm that MEL'S DAD IS MISSING A HAND!!! Everyone but MELISSA screams in agony over the horrors of the war. She gets up and walks away. As she walks, SHIRT-A-TOA approaches her.

shirt-a-toa

Hey, I've heard you've been saying things about me-

MELISSA

NOT NOW!

SHIRT-A-TOA backs off. MEL goes up to a balcony and leans over it. HENRI approaches.

henri

(in French)

Are you enjoying yourself, madame?

MELISSA

(also in French)

NO! I just want to go home!

HENRI

Ah, yes... I understand. My parties are not for everyone. Tell me though, have we met? I'm afraid I don't recognize you...

MELISSA

Oh, I'm Melissa Mouffette. Maybe you know my dad...

They look back to the table, where they're all still freaking out.

MELISSA

He's not really my dad, though. Just my imaginary... whatever.

HENRI

I see. Well... how did you come to be at my party?

MELISSA

My friend Nicole brought me here. Personally I wanted to stay in and work on a painting for my boyfriend, but she was all-

HENRI

Ah, you have a lover? Is he... your imaginer?

MELISSA

Yeah... how'd you know?

HENRI

Just a guess. You're both very lucky, you know. Long ago I had an imaginary love... but one day she disappeared as quickly and quietly as she came in.

So now I have these parties to try to fill the void, and see if I'll ever meet anyone like her again... In a way, you remind me of her. But I can tell you're quite spoken for.

He pulls her closer.

henri

Don't let him become like me.

She nods and begins to walk off. Right when it looks like she's about to go...

MELISSA

Can I ask you a couple things before I go?

HENRI

Of course.

MELISSA

What should I do with myself when he's not around?

henri

Why, Melissa, you shouldn't have to ask me this question. You're a passionate, talented little sprite. If you want to paint, paint. If you want to read, read. Just use your heart and things will become clear.

She nods again.

HENRI

But if you're really tapped for ideas, I could always use a jazz singer.

MELISSA

Thank you. I'll keep that in mind. My other question... how are you able to see us imaginary types?

HENRI

Uh... I don't know. I just can.

MELISSA

Oh... well... bye, I guess.

MEL poofs away.

scene 10- int. mike's bedroom, 3/6/2011, noon

MEL poofs in. She meditates on the advice she just got, and summons her canvas. She then literally takes her heart out of her chest and uses it to paint. She puts it back and examines her work. VERA comes in and observes.

VERA

Meow.

MELISSA

My thoughts exactly.

Noises at the door. MEL turns to it. I come in with my suitcase. She pounces on me and begins bombarding me with kisses.

MELISSA

Welcome home, sweetie.

MIKE

Glad to be home. I missed you so much...

MELISSA

I missed you too. Come here, I want to show you my painting.

MIKE

Oh, I didn't actually expect you to do a-

MELISSA

Well, I did. So come here!

She shows me to the painting. It's an abstract but endearing picture of me coming in the door and MEL pouncing on me.

MIKE

I think it's beautiful.

MELISSA

YAY!!!

MIKE

What's your secret?

MELISSA

It's like a friend told me. Use your heart.

MIKE

Aw...

MELISSA

So I tore my heart out and used it to smear the paint all over the place into that.

MIKE

Oh... I missed your crazy talk so much.

MELISSA

No, dude, that's really what I actually did.

I look at her, baffled. She smiles, I smile, we start kissing again. Why not?

OUTRO SEQUENCE!!!

Never forget the tonic water wars...